

ABSTRACT

A method of providing restoration routes for protecting traffic in a mesh
5 network is described. The method comprises the steps of generating a set of
eligible restoration routes for each span in the network, establishing a bi-
criteria objective function in terms of route length and capacity cost for
selecting a set of restoration routes, and selecting a set of restoration routes
for each span from the eligible restoration routes in dependence upon the bi-
10 criteria objective function. Embodiments of the invention may be useful for
shortening the lengths, in terms of hops, of existing restoration routes in a
mesh-restorable network and in some cases with negligible spare capacity
penalty.

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